

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-13 EB-07 AID-05 FEA-01

ACDA-10 AGR-10 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAL-01 /163 W

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R 041403Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6613

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 5086

FOR RUTH DEHAAN, OES/OFA/MST; LA PAZ FOR MINATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, AR

SUBJECT: NATIONAL MARINE SCIENCE POLICY - ARGENTINA

REF: A) 74 BUENOS AIRES A-129(NOTAL); B) STATE 186529(NOTAL)

1. ARGENTINA REALLY HAS NO RPT NO DECLARED POLICY FOR MARINE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. ALL THAT IS CERTAIN IS ITS LAW ADD REGULATIONS REQUIRING GOVERNMENT APPROVAL FOR FOREIGNERS TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN WATERS AND ON/IN THE SHELF CLAIMED BY ARGENTINA (REF A).

2. FOLLOWING KEYED TO PARA 2, REFTEL B:

A. NO. THE ARGENTINE OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMITTEE HAS PREPARED

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SHORT AND MEDIUM RANGE PLANS, BUT IMPLEMENTATION IS UN-

CERTAIN. (THE COMMITTEE IS ONLY ADVISORY TO THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL-CONICET).

B. NO, ALTHOUGH IMPORTANCE OF SUCH INTERACTION IS RECOGNIZED.

C. (1) FISHERIES: NEWLY CREATED STATE SECRETARIAT FOR MARITIME INTERESTS (ECONOMY MINISTRY) IS EXPECTED TO PROMOTE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT, WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN MINIMAL. (FISHERIES PREVIOUSLY UNDER COGNIZANCE OF NATIONAL MEAT BOARD, WHICH EMPHASIZED CATTLE DEVELOPMENT.)

(2) MARINE MINERALS: THERE IS INTEREST IN EVALUATION OF THESE RESOURCES ON THE SHELF AND SLOPE, AND THIS EFFORT HAS ALREADY BEGUN.

(3) CCOASTAL ZONE: BIGGEST INTEREST IS IN DEVELOPMENT OF DEEP WATER PORTS. SOME CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO A TIDAL POWER PLANT AT NECK OF PENINSULA VALDES.

(4) MANNED UNDERSEA ACTIVITIES (NON-MILITARY): YPF (NAT. PETROLEUM CO.) AND ARG. NAVY ARE DOING SOME DIVING DEVELOPMENT. WE KNOW OF NO UNDERSEA RESEARCH VESSELS AS YET.

(5) OFF-SHORE OIL: DEFINITE INCREASING INTEREST. YPF HAS RECENTLY CALLED FOR BIDS FOR CONTRACTS FOE DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN TRACTS OFF COAST OF PATAGONIA. RESULTS TO DATE HAVE BEEN MINIMAL IN TERMS OF ACTUAL EXPLOITATION.

D. NO POLICY, BUT SOME TRAINING UNDERWAY. GOA REVIEWING PLAN TO BE PRESENTED TO UNDP CALLING FOR 50 PERCENT GOA, 50 PERCENT UNDP FUNDING.

OAS CURRENTLY SUPPORTING ONE EXPERT (DR. WALTER W. HAYS, USGS) WHO IS TEACHING COURSE ON SEISMIC ANALYSIS AT NAVAL HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE (SHN).

E. NO SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL COOPERATION. SOME GERMAN COOPERATION. WITH NATIONAL GEOHELIOPHYSICAL COMMISSION, AND, OF COURSE, BETWEEN U.S.-PARTICULARLY USING R.V. ISLAS ORCADAS - AND ARG. ANTARCTIC INSTITUTE AND SHN, ARGENTINA PARTICIPATES IN OAS MULTINATIONAL PROGRAM ON MARINE SCIENCE.

3. COMMENT: THE NEW SECRETARIAT FOR MARITIME INTERESTS MAY WELL SHOW CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN MARINE SCIENCE, AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME DEFINITIVE POLICIES MAY EMERGE BEFORE TOO LONG.

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